

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 EPA-01 CEA-01 NSF-01

AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 IO-11

NEA-10 NSAE-00 USIA-06 OPIC-03 SP-02 TRSE-00 CIEP-01

LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 SS-15 NSC-05 H-02 L-03 DOTE-00

HUD-01 HEW-02 STR-04 INT-05 AGR-05 /131 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SENV, JA, US

SUBJECT: FLUOROCARBONS AND PCBS IN THE OECD

REF: TOKYO 3382

1. WE APPRECIATE EMBASSY EFFORTS AND USEFUL REPORTING ON THIS SUBJECT.

2. IN REPLY TO KAWANISHI QUESTION (PARA 2 REFTTEL) CONCERNING LINKAGE BETWEEN THE TWO CHEMICALS, MECHANICAL
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ONE IS THAT BOTH FALL WITHIN THE COMPETENCE OF THE OECD

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE'S CHEMICALS SUBGROUP AND BOTH ARE DISCRETE SUB-POINTS OF THE "CHEMICALS ITEM" ON THE AGENDA FOR THE MARCH 15-19 ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING. SUBSTANTIVELY, EVEN THOUGH THEY REQUIRE AND ARE RECEIVING DIFFERENT TREATMENT IN THE OECD, BOTH ARE, OF COURSE, INDUSTRIALLY DERIVED CHEMICAL POLLUTANTS WITH INTERNATIONAL (TRADE ENVIRONMENTAL) RAMIFICATIONS.

3. THROUGH OVERSIGHT, WE DID NOT PUT IN SPECIAL SECTION FOR EMBASSY TOKYO IN PCB CABLE (STATE 55080) GIVING RECOGNITION TO SIGNIFICANT EXCHANGE WHICH TOOK PLACE DURING RECENT US-JAPAN ENVIRONMENTAL TALKS IN WASHINGTON.

JAPANESE THEN PROVIDED A GOOD DEAL OF THE TYPE OF INFORMATION WE ARE SEEKING FROM OTHER OECD MEMBERS.

4. CONCERNING FLUOROCARBONS, WE UNDERSTAND DOMESTIC CONSIDERATIONS WHICH MAY TEMPER GOJ ENTHUSIASM FOR PARTICIPATING IN ANY OECD PROJECT. AT SAME TIME, IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT US IS NOT PROPOSING IN OECD ANY TYPE OF REGULATORY ACTION AT THIS JUNCTURE. OUR BASIC AIM IS TO ALERT OTHERS TO THE POTENTIAL NEED FOR CONCERTED ACTION AT SOME POINT IN THE FUTURE, AND PURSUE IN A "FACT-FINDING" MANNER AN ANALYSIS OF THE IMPLICATIONS AND IMPACTS OF VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL REGULATORY OPTIONS. US, OF COURSE, HAS SIMILAR SITUATION VIS A VIS FLUOROCARBON MANUFACTURERS AND USERS AS JAPAN, AND WE BELIEVE THAT IT IN INTEREST OF ALL CONCERNED (GOVERNMENTS AND INDUSTRY) TO EXAMINE NOW IN "RELAXED" ATMOSPHERE THE VARIOUS POSSIBILITIES THE FUTURE MIGHT HOLD (INCLUDING THEIR IMPACTS IN A BROAD SENSE), RATHER THAN WAITING UNTIL THE TIME WHEN THERE MAY BE EVIDENCE WHICH REQUIRES URGENT ACTION.

5. IF IT APPROPRIATE TO DO SO, WE WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY MAKING PITCH CONTAINED ABOVE IN HOPES GOJ DELEGATION TO OECD MEETING MIGHT PLAY A SOMEWHAT MORE POSITIVE ROLE ON FLUOROCARBONS THAN FORECAST BY EMBASSY IN REFTEL. KISSINGER

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